



# IMPACT (INQUIRY MODEL FOR PROFESSIONAL ACTION AND CONTENT-RICH TEACHING)



## CONTACT

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## Purpose

The IMPACT program began in 2004 by instructing teachers in Marion and Newark schools to use the inquiry method in their science classes. Starting in 2008, the work has been with science teachers in Marion City Schools middle and high schools. Inquiry refers to students exploring physical phenomena and reasoning about it. The role of the inquiry teacher is as a “guide on the side” or coach rather than an all-knowing “sage on the stage,” the predominant model of teacher behavior in America.

The project began by making professional (content) development available for teachers during the summer and extensively during the school year. The program also uses the Full Option Science Systems (FOSS) curriculum purchased by the district, incorporating it with the IMPACT approach.

## Impact

In both the Ohio Achievement Test and Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT), science scores improved markedly from those achieved prior to the IMPACT program. The 2010-2011 OGT scores from the first group of students with at least one year of IMPACT instruction produced ~8-10% improvement in all categories.

### OHIO STATE COLLEGES/UNITS INVOLVED

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS  
OHIO STATE MARION  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

### COMMUNITY PARTNERS INVOLVED

MARION CITY SCHOOLS  
THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

